Marine Corps force protection equipment for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the U.S. Marine Corps: BG Randolph D. Alles, USMC, Commanding General, Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory; and BG Michael M. Brogan, USMC, Commanding General, Marine Corps Systems Command.

THE COLLEGE STUDENT RELIEF ACT OF 2007

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a vote of 8 to 4, a closed rule providing 3 hours of general debate on H.R. 5, to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to reduce interest rates for student borrowers, in the House equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor. The rule waives all points of order against the bill and against its consideration except for clause 9 and 10 of Rule XXI. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Finally, the rule provides that the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to a time designated by the Speaker. Testimony was heard from Chairman Miller of California and Representatives McKeon and Keller.

CREATING LONG-TERM ENERGY ALTERNATIVES FOR THE NATION (CLEAN) ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a vote of 8 to 4, a closed rule providing 3 hours of general debate on H.R. 6, to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes, in the House with 60 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means, 60 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources, 30 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Agriculture, and 30 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Science and Technology. The rule waives all points of order against the bill and against its consideration except for clause 9 and 10 or Rule XXI. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule also provides that during consideration of H.R. 6 pursuant to this resolution, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill

to a time designated by the Speaker. Testimony was heard from Chairman Rahall and Representatives Nunes, Bartlett of Maryland and Biggert.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D35)

H.R. 482, to provide for a land exchange involving Federal lands in the Lincoln National Forest in the State of New Mexico. Signed on January 12, 2007. (Public Law 109–474)

H.R. 1245, to provide for programs to increase the awareness and knowledge of women and health care providers with respect to gynecologic cancers. Signed on January 12, 2007. (Public Law 109–475)

H.R. 4709, to amend title 18, United States Code, to strengthen protections for law enforcement officers and the public by providing criminal penalties for the fraudulent acquisition or unauthorized disclosure of phone records. Signed on January 12, 2007. (Public Law 109–476)

H.R. 4997, to extend for 2 years the authority to grant waivers of the foreign country residence requirement with respect to certain international medical graduates. Signed on January 12, 2007. (Public Law 109–477)

H.R. 5483, to increase the disability earning limitation under the Railroad Retirement Act and to index the amount of allowable earnings consistent with increases in the substantial gainful activity dollar amount under the Social Security Act. Signed on January 12, 2007. (Public Law 109–478)

H.R. 5946, to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to authorize activities to promote improved monitoring and compliance for high seas fisheries, or fisheries governed by international fishery management agreements. Signed on January 12, 2007. (Public Law 109–479)

H.R. 5948, to reauthorize the Belarus Democracy Act of 2004. Signed on January 12, 2007. (Public Law 109–480)

H.R. 6338, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prevent and repress the misuse of the Red Crescent distinctive emblem and the Third Protocol (Red Crystal) distinctive emblem. Signed on January 12, 2007. (Public Law 109–481)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2007

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: to hold hearings to examine conservation security program and environmental quality incentives program relating to working land conservation, 9:30 a.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings to examine practices in Department of Defense contracting for services and inter-agency contracting, 2:30 p.m., SR-232A.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine aviation security, focusing on the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: organizational business meeting to consider committee's rules of procedure for the 110th Congress, 9:45 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures for committee operations, committee's rules of procedure for the 110th Congress, and subcommittee assignments; committee will also consider The Small Business and Work Opportunity Act of 2007, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the remaining options and regional diplomatic strat-

egy relating to securing America's interests in Iraq, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine paying off generics to prevent competition with brand name drugs, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Defense, executive, on Army and Marine Corps Readiness, 10 a.m., and, executive, on Army and Marine Operations and Equipment Reconstitution, 1:30 p.m., H–140 Capitol.

Committee on Armed Services, hearing on alternative perspectives on the President's strategy for Iraq, 1 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, oversight hearing on Iraq, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to meet for organizational purposes, 10:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, to meet for organizational purposes, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.